WASHINGTON, DC – Today, Rep. Mike Honda (D-CA), chair of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus, issued the following statement to congratulate Sen. Daniel Inouye (D-HI), who will succeed Sen. Robert Byrd (D-WV) as chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee:

"I congratulate Senator Inouye for his future post as chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee. Senator Inouye is my friend and has been an outstanding leader for the state of Hawaii and the American public in the United States Senate. His experience and wisdom will guide him in his new post, as it has throughout his time in elected office and his brave service in the U.S. Army 442nd Regimental Combat Team. I look forward to working with him on appropriations matters important to the Asian American and Pacific Islander community and to all Americans."

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The Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus (CAPAC) is a bicameral and bipartisan caucus of Members of Congress of Asian and Pacific Islander descent and Members who have a strong dedication to promoting the well-being of the Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community. Founded in 1994 by then Congressman Norman Mineta, and currently chaired by Congressman Michael Honda, CAPAC has been addressing the needs of the AAPI community in all areas of American life. For more information on CAPAC, please call (202) 225-2631 or visit <a href="http://www.honda.house.gov/capac">http://www.honda.house.gov/capac</a>.